



Bonnie D. Shealy

1901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1200 POST OFFICE BOX 944 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

PH

(803) 779-8900 | (803) 227-1102 direct

FAX

(803) 252-0724 | (803) 744-1551 direct

bshealy@robinsonlaw.com

March 9, 2010

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Jocelyn Boyd, Interim Chief Clerk of the Commission Public Service Commission of South Carolina Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

> Re: Application of Duke Energy Carolinas for Approval of Experimental Tariff Covering Home Energy Comparison Report Pilot Program

Docket No. 2010-50-E

Dear Jocelyn:

Pursuant to Commission Order No. 2010-157, Duke Energy Carolinas provides the attached additional information on its proposed Experimental Tariff covering its Home Energy Comparison Report Pilot Program. The Company aggregates data for customers with similar characteristics to maintain privacy and protect anonymity. No customer specific information is shared. By copy of this letter we are providing this information to the Office of Regulatory Staff. Should the Commission or Staff have any additional questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

ROBINSON, McFadden & Moore, P.C.

Bonnie D. Shealy

/bds

**Enclosures** 

cc/enc: Dan F. Arnett, Chief of Staff ORS (via email & U.S. Mail)

Jeffrey Nelson, Staff Attorney ORS (via email)

Lara S. Nichols, Associate General Counsel (via email)

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2010-50-E

In re:	)	
	)	
Application of Duke Energy	)	SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES
Carolinas for Approval of	)	
<b>Experimental Tariff</b>	)	
<b>Covering Home Energy Comparison</b>	)	
Report Pilot Program	)	
	)	

The Home Energy Comparison Report Pilot Program would run for 12 months and be tested with a selection of up to 8,125 customers served on Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's ("Duke Energy Carolinas" or "Company") residential rates. The report compares the customer's energy usage over time to similar homes in the area. The Company compiled energy usage and publicly available information (location, size, home age, and number of occupants) on similar homes to develop the comparison. The aggregate data for similar customers is used to create "average" and "efficient" homes. All comparison data is aggregated to maintain data security. Customer specific information and home characteristics are not shared with others.

A representative sample of customers would be randomly selected to receive the initial reports. The pilot reports would be distributed monthly or quarterly in online or printed forms. Attached are a sample report and a list of Frequently Asked Questions that would be provided to the pilot participants. The report contains a link to the Company's website and a toll free number so that the customer can ask additional questions and/or request not to receive the report. The report's energy analysis content for each home will be compared to the average energy use of similar home types in the area for the same period. For example, the attached report compared 1489 households that were between 900 and 1500 square feet and built in the 1946 to 1956 time period. The average home's bill was \$92, the pilot customer's was \$63, and the energy efficient home's was \$40. Suggested energy efficiency improvements given the usage profile for that home would also be provided. In this sample, information regarding servicing the HVAC, washing clothes in cold water, and upgrading heating and air conditioning units was provided. In addition, measurement specific coupons, rebates or audit follow-ups from other Company programs will be offered to select customers based on the customer's energy profile.

**Customer Name and Mailing Address** 



#### **Account Number**

## **HOW AM I DOING?**

# FENSKE HOME EFFICIENCY SCORE

Based on latest 24 months using a scale of 0-100. Lower scores are better.





Watch this space to find your previous score in next quarter's report!



Based on what we know about your home, this score is a realistic goal.

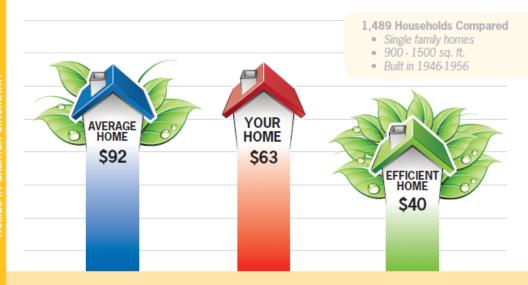
# What is this?

We've sent you this report to help you compare your home's electricity cost to that of similar homes and find out ways to use energy more wisely.

Working together, we can build a sustainable energy future. Conserving energy is not only good for the environment and your pocketbook, but helps Duke Energy control costs.

If you do not wish to receive this report in the future, just let us know by using the contact information below.

# HOW DID MY COSTS COMPARE TO SIMILAR HOMES THIS MONTH?



Good start. Let's see if you can take it to the next level. Consider trying one of the tips below.

# HOW DO I LOWER MY SCORE?



Service your HVAC. Have your HVAC system serviced at least twice a year. Poorly maintained systems will become 1-2% less efficient every year.



**Wash in cold water.** Most detergents work just as well in cold water. Conserve electricity and hot water by using a cold-wash cycle on your washing machine. Almost 90% of the energy is used to heat the water.



**Upgrade your heating and air conditioning.** Get up to \$1,900 back in 2010 from Duke Energy's Smart \$aver rebate and your Federal Tax Credit when you replace an old system with a qualifying high efficiency furnace, heat pump or air conditioner.



QUESTIONS? 888-873-3853 M-F 8AM-5PM OR SaveEnergy@duke-energy.com

# **Back Page Content**

## Home Energy Comparison Report

Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the Home Energy Comparison Report?

Duke Energy developed this report for customers to help them understand their energy usage. The report simply compares your home's energy efficiency over time to similar homes in the area.

## How do you choose the homes used in my comparison?

Duke Energy compiled energy usage and publicly available information (location, size, home age, and number of occupants) on nearby similar homes to develop the comparison.

#### How do you select the energy tips?

The report provides you personalized tips based on how we understand your energy use patterns, information about your home, and the time of year.

#### How often will I receive the report?

Depending on your location, your report will be delivered either monthly or quarterly through the mail. Keep an eye out for your next Home Energy Comparison Report so you can track your progress.

#### How do my most efficient neighbors manage to use so much less energy than me?

They are likely taking a variety of savings actions including adjusting thermostats to manage heating and cooling costs; turning off lights and home electronics when not in use; running only full laundry and dishwasher loads; or installing a more efficient heating/air conditioning system or water heater. Find out more ways to save at www.duke-energy.com.

## Whose home qualifies as the "Most Efficient Home"?

In this report, we use a scale of 1-100 to rank all the homes that are similar to yours, and homes on the lower end of the scale use less electricity. The "Most Efficient Home" represents the one that falls at number 25. Likewise, the label for "Average Home" designates homes that fall into the 50th position.

#### Why doesn't this amount match the amount that I see on my actual bill?

Because everyone is on a different billing cycle, we compare usage in kilowatt hours from a fixed, common time period and multiply it by the average residential rate to calculate the costs shown on your report.

#### What is a Kilowatt-Hour (kWh) anyway?

A kilowatt-hour means one kilowatt (1,000 watts) of electricity produced or consumed for one hour. One 100-watt light bulb left on for 10 hours consumes one kilowatt-hour of electricity (100 watts x 10 hours = 1,000 watt-hours = 1 kilowatt-hour).

Why would Duke Energy try to help me save energy? Don't they benefit when people use more? When customers reduce their energy needs, it reduces the costs to provide energy and the need to build more power plants in the future, which actually lowers bills for everyone.

#### Is my home energy use being shared with other customers?

No, all the comparison information is aggregated to create your report. Your specific information and home characteristics are not shared with others.

#### What if I have more questions or want to stop receiving this report?

Please email SaveEnergy@duke-energy.com or call 888-873-3853 if you need further assistance.

